

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, AND SURVEYORS  
OF HIGHWAYS,

OF THE

TOWN OF LEXINGTON.

1862...63.

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BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1863.



## ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Overseers and Surveyors, in submitting this, their Annual Report, have deviated from the course adopted by former Boards, as the circumstances varied their duties, and were incidental to the year.

### REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Immediately after having sworn to perform the duties of Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing, we were urgently called upon, by anxious creditors, for the several amounts due them from our predecessors in office. The following list of bills are a part of their expenditures.

Paid Town of Dorchester, for aid furnished Artemas Cutter and family, . . . . .	\$ 6 50
" Damon & Blinn, for coal furnished the Alms-house, . . . . .	13 50
" Franklin V. Butters, for dry goods for the Alms-house, . . . . .	4 78
" A. P. Spofford, for board of Isaac Blodgett, . . . . .	17 00
" William Smith, for harness work, . . . . .	6 43
" H. B. Mitchel, for fresh fish, . . . . .	16 07
" Town of Topsfield, for aid furnished Mrs. A. M. Hill and family, (Mrs. Hill was the daughter of Isaac Blodgett,) . . . . .	10 50
" Town of South Danvers, for aid furnished Randolph L. Stickney, Jr., and family, . . . . .	30 54
" A. P. Richardson, for rent of pasture, . . . . .	12 38
" Nathaniel Mulliken, for milk to Mrs. Bridges, . . . . .	1 20
" William M. Ashby, for sawing lumber, . . . . .	1 63
" City of Lynn, for aid furnished Mrs. Ann Blodgett, the wife of a son of Isaac Blodgett, . . . . .	71 25
" H. B. Mitchel, for fresh fish, . . . . .	3 37
	<hr/> \$ 195 15
Credit by cash of the town of Woburn, . . . . .	7 00
	<hr/> \$ 188 15
Cost of supporting the poor for 1861, as shown by Selectmen's Report, . . . . .	1,538 24
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Sum total for maintenance of poor for 1861, . . . . .	\$ 1,726 39



The sixth day of March we examined and appraised the property belonging to the Town, and connected with the Poor Farm, to wit :

2 Swine, . . . \$ 16 00	1 Stake wagon for hay, . . . 12 00
1 Horse cart, . . . 15 00	Fire-wood, . . . 60 00
1 Harrow and 1 cultivator, 4 00	Horse sled, . . . 8 00
2 Ploughs, . . . 10 00	4 Saws, . . . 2 00
17 Fowls, . . . 6 80	3 Baskets, . . . 50
Vinegar and casks, . . . 8 00	Provision in the pantry, 25 00
4 Chains and lead chains, 2 00	20 Galls. molasses, . . . 5 60
1 Cart harness, . . . 4 00	3 Tons of coal, . . . 18 75
1 Plough harness, . . . 2 00	Potatoes, . . . 18 00
2 Manure forks, . . . 1 00	Salt pork, . . . 28 00
4 Hoes, . . . 50	Casks in cellar, . . . 3 00
2 Draft chains, . . . 3 00	Tea, brooms and rice, 13 50
1 Wagon harness, . . . 7 00	White beans, . . . 13 00
2 Heifers, two years old, 36 00	2 Stocks of boards, . . . 3 50
1 Cow, . . . 30 00	Corn, . . . 26 25
7 Tons of hay, . . . 84 00	7 Hay rakes and 2 scythe
Hay forks and hay cutter, 3 00	snaths, . . . 2 50
1 Feed trough, . . . 1 00	Furniture in the house, 200 00
1 Pung sleigh, . . . 2 50	
1 Horse wagon, . . . 35 00	
	\$ 710 40

On the first of March, the number of persons in the Alms-house receiving support from the Town was ten. The oldest was 97, and the youngest was 57; they averaged 77 years. From these, not much labor was to be expected; yet the products of the farm will show a good degree of industry, well directed.

One of the inmates, before alluded to, voluntarily left the House and went to the State of Vermont, with the avowed intention of never returning. Two of the others having become heirs to small amounts of property, have been put under guardianship ; and the Town is now receiving pay for their board. Although the Overseers would not think it best to convert the Alms-house into a Boarding-house, yet as these two old persons had been there a long time, and manifested no wish to remove, but a strong desire to stay, as it was "their home,"—and as in all probability they will again become chargeable to the Town, it was thought advisable to let them remain, for the present at least, as the room was not wanted for other purposes. Their names are Stephen Winship and Jonathan Trask.

About the 20th of June, a male child was left at the door of James Mead, late in the evening, and there abandoned. It has been placed in good hands, and named William Albert Stone.

In looking into the Statutes for a better understanding of our duties as Overseers, we found in chap. 22, sec. 3d and 4th, that the law required us to meet "once in every month, and at other times as occasion may require." This requirement we have observed, by meeting at the Town Hall on the last Monday in each month. We think this regular meeting of the Board secures many advantages, some of which would otherwise be lost.

We would say, in this connection, that the roof of the Alms-house will need to be shingled the coming season, and recommend the Town

to make early provision for that necessary expense. We also suggest the economy of giving the House a coating of paint; the window sashes and the doors, with some other parts of the building, will otherwise decay very fast.

*Expenditures of the Overseers.*

Paid	Bennett & Saville, for groceries,	\$2 17
"	L. R. Crosby, for tobacco,	3 00
"	Lexington and W. C. Railroad Co., for transportation,	1 21
"	Whitcher, Sackrider & Co., for grain,	38 00
"	Bennett & Saville, for groceries,	17 94
"	John B. Smith, for labor as carpenter,	2 63
"	Harrington & Locke, for painting wagon,	4 50
"	Gershom Swan, for mason work,	3 04
"	Lex. and W. Camb. Railroad Co., for transportation,	3 25
"	Howard Emerson, for butter,	7 40
"	James H. Hallett, for bedding,	6 00
"	Albert Fitch, for beef,	6 32
"	" " " " " " " "	21 72
"	G. Bray, for horse,	165 00
"	Henry Durell, for bbl. of molasses,	15 67
"	Ayer & Raymond, for bbl. of flour,	7 00
"	John Hastings, for rye,	1 70
"	Gershom Swan, for mason work,	4 50
"	H. W. Vinal, for oats,	8 80
"	Lex. and W. Camb. Railroad Co., for transportation,	68
"	Whitcher, Sackrider & Co., for grain,	13 20
"	A. P. Spofford, for boarding Isaac Blodgett,	13 00
"	Albert Fitch, for grain,	11 50
"	Franklin V. Butters, for dry goods,	4 56
"	Lex. and W. Camb. Railroad Co., for transportation,	38
"	James Mead, for nursing,	3 00
"	Colburn Hadlock, for butter,	5 60
"	George F. Chapman, for services,	112 50
"	F. M. Harrington, for horse hire,	6 00
"	William M. Ashby, for sawing lumber,	1 90
"	F. V. Butters, for dry goods,	1 34
"	Geo. F. Chapman, for sundries,	4 07
"	Patrick Reynolds, for bacon,	3 69
"	Eli Simonds, for hay for litter,	5 20
"	Bennett & Saville, for groceries,	27 61
"	Surveyors of highways, for labor,	11 00
"	Henry Mulliken, for carpentry,	2 50
"	A. T. Perkins, for bug poison,	43
"	C. K. Tucker, for wheelwright work,	11 17
"	Henry Durell, for salt fish,	3 75
"	F. V. Butters, for dry goods,	1 46
"	A. E. Thomson, for dry goods,	76

Amount carried over, . . . . . \$565 15



Amount brought over, . . . . .	\$ 565 15
Paid Bennett & Saville, for groceries, . . . . .	8 04
" Rodney Centre, for boarding E. F. Stearns 6 months, . . . . .	5 00
" J. A. Butterfield, for groceries, . . . . .	7 13
" George F. Chapman, for cash advanced, . . . . .	10 00
" J. M. Damon, for sundries, . . . . .	5 88
" Estabrooks & Blodgett, for a cow, . . . . .	38 00
" For trusses, . . . . .	6 75
" Howard Emerson, 30½ lbs. butter, @ .21, . . . . .	6 41
" John G. Tilton, for grain, . . . . .	19 46
" J. T. Boynton, for meat, . . . . .	5 58
" Town of Woburn, boarding John Wyman 2 weeks, . . . . .	2 00
" T. Hastings & Co., 17 lbs. ham, @ .10, . . . . .	1 70
" John A. Butterfield, for grain and groceries, . . . . .	23 20
" H. B. Mitchel, fresh fish, . . . . .	9 11
" Hannah R. Ferguson, boarding Wm. A. Stone, . . . . .	20 77
" Geo. F. Chapman, for services, . . . . .	112 50
" Colburn Hadlock, 35 lbs. butter, @ .20, . . . . .	7 00
" O. W. Kendall, for burial services, . . . . .	4 25
" A. Webb, for 14 flour barrels, . . . . .	1 83
" Eli Simonds, for 14 barrels, . . . . .	4 00
" George F. Chapman, for 3 barrels, . . . . .	50
" James S. Monroe, for furniture, . . . . .	3 42
" Hannah R. Ferguson, for boarding Wm. A. Stone, . . . . .	9 30
" N. & J. Howe & Co. for wooden ware, . . . . .	1 50
" Davis & Taylor, for grain, . . . . .	9 00
" Geo. F. Chapman, for furniture, . . . . .	58
" F. V. Butters, for dry goods, . . . . .	35 12
" A. P. Spofford, for boarding Isaac Blodgett, . . . . .	27 00
" Howard Emerson, for 102 lbs. butter, @ .23, . . . . .	23 46
" Davis & Taylor, for 1 bbl. flour, . . . . .	9 25
" John Dexter, for 8 lbs. tobacco, @ .40, . . . . .	3 20
" A. N. Swallow & Co., for groceries, . . . . .	1 93
" Lex. and W. Camb. Railroad Co., for transportation, . . . . .	58
" Town of Seekonk, boarding Mrs. Thomas Locke, . . . . .	2 50
" Rufus Warren, for boots, . . . . .	6 37
" Gershom Swan, for mason work, . . . . .	8 00
" William Simonds, for wood and coal, . . . . .	12 25
" H. R. Ferguson, boarding William A. Stone, . . . . .	14 07
" Wm. Woodbury, for dry goods, . . . . .	2 75
" Henry Durell, for salt fish, . . . . .	4 25
" Albert Fitch, for 3 pigs, . . . . .	9 50
" " " beef, . . . . .	15 41
" " " 2 pork barrels, . . . . .	1 50
" Sawtell & Whitcher, for grain, . . . . .	3 32
" Hammond Reed, for standing wood, . . . . .	7 50
" J. A. Butterfield, for 2½ lbs. tobacco, @ .32, . . . . .	80
" Edward Reed, for making cider, . . . . .	4 22
" Wm. A. Lane, for standing wood, . . . . .	28 50
" Geo. F. Chapman, for sundries, . . . . .	3 31

Amount carried up, . . . . . \$ 1,112 85

Amount brought up, . . . . .	\$ 1,112 85
Paid Bennett & Saville, for groceries, . . . . .	25 45
" Wm. Smith, for harness work, . . . . .	2 71
" Henry Mulliken, for carpentry, . . . . .	4 25
" H. B. Davis, for groceries, . . . . .	13 33
" Edmund Symmes, for sundries, . . . . .	13 70
" A. P. Spofford, for boarding Isaac Blodgett, . . . . .	19 30
" Wellington Brothers, for coal for Mrs. Hurly, . . . . .	9 25
" Edward E. Melvin, for meat, . . . . .	12 12
" Warren Duren, for boots and shoes and repairing, . . . . .	7 78
" Estabrooks and Blodgett, for pasturing, . . . . .	10 00
" John G. Tilton, for grain, . . . . .	7 60
" Darius Dow, for 284 lbs. scraps, . . . . .	2 80
" " " expressing, . . . . .	1 87
" George F. Chapman, for David Penny's clothes, . . . . .	8 50
" Charles Robinson, Jr., for legal services, . . . . .	4 40
" J. T. Boynton, for meat left at the house, . . . . .	9 25
" Rodney Centre, for board of E. T. Stearns, 6 months, . . . . .	5 00
" Charles K. Tucker, for wheelwright work, . . . . .	1 89
" Howland Holmes, for medical attendance, . . . . .	25 00
" Aaron P. Richardson, for use of pasture, . . . . .	12 00
" F. V. Butters, for dry goods, . . . . .	87
" Hannah Ferguson, for boarding Wm. A. Stone, . . . . .	12 52
" A. P. Spofford, " Isaac Blodgett, . . . . .	12 75
" Bennett & Saville, for groceries, . . . . .	3 73
" William Ham, for blacksmithing, . . . . .	7 39
" Albert Fitch, for repairing truss, . . . . .	1 25
115 lbs. beef, @ .05½, . . . . .	6 32
3½ cords manure, @ 6.00, . . . . .	21 00
" Geo. F. Chapman, for services, . . . . .	225 00
" Luther Eaton, for curing bacon, . . . . .	1 33
" Eli Simonds, for 9 days' services, @ 2.00, . . . . .	18 00
Attending 11 evening meetings, @ .50, . . . . .	5 50
Services as Treasurer, . . . . .	4 00
1½ days to Danvers and Topsfield, . . . . .	3 00
Expenses, . . . . .	2 00
Expenses incurred in buying a horse, . . . . .	1 50
2 days to Seekonk, . . . . .	4 00
Expenses, . . . . .	9 78
1 day to Lowell and Tewksbury, . . . . .	2 00
Expenses, . . . . .	50
1 day to Boston, . . . . .	2 00
Expenses, . . . . .	62
Cash paid an itinerant, . . . . .	2 00
" Albert Fitch, for 9 days' services, @ 2.00, . . . . .	18 00
Attending 11 evening meetings, @ .50, . . . . .	5 50
" I. N. Damon, for 8½ days' services, @ 2.00, . . . . .	17 00
Services as Clerk, . . . . .	6 00
½ day to Lynn and expenses, . . . . .	2 20
½ day to Woburn and expenses, . . . . .	2 25

Amount carried over, . . . . . \$ 1,707 06



Amount brought over, . . . . .	\$ 1,707 06
Paid I. N. Damon, for cash paid express, . . . . .	26
"    itinerants, . . . . .	1 30
"    horse hire, . . . . .	75
"    stationery and postage, . . . . .	24
" Wellington Brothers, for coal for Edward Winship, . . . . .	1 25
" E. Symmes, boots and shoes, . . . . .	5 82
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	\$ 1,716 68
Paid outstanding bills, belonging to 1861, . . . . .	195 15
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Total expenditures, . . . . .	\$ 1,911 83

*Recapitulation of Expenditures by the Overseers.*

Amount paid for the support of poor out of the house, . . . . .	\$ 210 39
"    expended at the Alms-house, . . . . .	1,027 74
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"    paid outstanding bills for 1861, . . . . .	195 15
"    "    repairs on the house, . . . . .	32 67
"    of income in value of property at the house, . . . . .	250 73
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	\$ 1,716 68

The Overseers of the Poor have charged themselves with the following amounts as received, to wit:

From the town for labor performed on Randall's Bridge, . . . . .	\$ 6 25
"    sale of old iron from the house, . . . . .	4 92
"    Estabrooks & Blodgett, for keeping cattle, . . . . .	4 00
"    Albert Fitch, for a calf, . . . . .	6 60
"    I. N. Damon, guardian, for board of Stephen Winship, . . . . .	60 67
"    I. N. Damon, guardian, for Jonathan Trask, . . . . .	3 50
"    hay sold from the farm, . . . . .	73 53
"    potatoes sold from the farm, . . . . .	13 19
"    apples " " . . . . .	42 58
"    other produce " " . . . . .	19 41
"    5 bbls. cider, . . . . .	7 50
"    the surveyors of highways, for labor of Chapman and farm horse with cart, and boarding the two road horses, . . . . .	447 51
"    the sale of a cow to Estabrooks & Blodgett, . . . . .	35 00
"    the sale of a cow to Swan, . . . . .	37 00
"    the town of Woburn, for support of Flint, . . . . .	7 00
"    the Town Treasurer of Lexington, . . . . .	1,143 17
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Total receipts, . . . . .	\$ 1,911 83

*Valuation of Personal Property, as appraised by the Overseers, Feb. 28, 1863, belonging to the Alms-house.*

1 Grey mare, . . . . .	\$ 165 00	Butter, . . . . .	13 80
2 Cows, . . . . .	50 00	½ Bbl. Soap, . . . . .	2 00
Hay, . . . . .	110 00	Molasses, . . . . .	8 00
Corn fodder, . . . . .	5 00	Vinegar and keg, . . . . .	1 50
Feed trough and hay cutter, . . . . .	2 00	Potatoes, . . . . .	20 00
Wagon harness, . . . . .	8 00	Apples, . . . . .	4 50
Grain, salt and scraps in barn, . . . . .	6 50	Roots, . . . . .	3 00
Harness for cart, . . . . .	5 00	Beef, . . . . .	4 00
"    "    plows, . . . . .	2 00	Salt pork, . . . . .	22 00
Hay and manure forks, . . . . .	2 50	Old casks and boxes, . . . . .	5 00
3 Swine, . . . . .	27 00	Ham, . . . . .	13 00
2 Casks and vinegar, . . . . .	11 00	Sugar, . . . . .	5 00
1 Plow and harrow, . . . . .	5 00	Tea, . . . . .	2 10
1 Stake wagon, . . . . .	5 00	Tobacco, . . . . .	84
1 Pung, . . . . .	3 00	Lard, . . . . .	5 00
1 Light wagon, . . . . .	35 00	4 New brooms, . . . . .	1 00
2 Wheelbarrows, . . . . .	4 00	Peas and beans, . . . . .	11 00
1 Chain and 4 stake chains, . . . . .	2 00	Codfish and rye, . . . . .	6 00
1 Horse cart, . . . . .	10 00	Corn, . . . . .	40 00
20 Fowls, . . . . .	11 64	Hay rakes, scythes and snaths, . . . . .	3 00
2 Saws and 2 chains, . . . . .	1 50	Furniture in house, . . . . .	200 00
5 Hoes and 2 baskets, . . . . .	1 00		<hr/>
Wood, . . . . .	102 50		\$ 961 13
Sled, . . . . .	5 00	Amount as taken March 6, 1862, . . . . .	710 40
3 Saws, . . . . .	1 50		<hr/>
3 Axes, . . . . .	2 25	Increased value, . . . . .	\$ 250 73
Flour and meal in house, . . . . .	7 00		

The whole number of paupers at the Alms-house during the year, has been eighty-six; of this number, seventy-two have remained but one night; seven have been supported throughout the year.

The number now at the Alms-house is 10. Average number for the year, 9½.

Four hundred and ninety-five weeks' support have been furnished paupers at the house, at an average cost per week of \$1.02, exclusive of interest on the farm.



Whole expenditure at the Alms-house, . . . .	\$1,716 68
Paid poor outside, . . . .	\$210 39
Stock and produce sold, . . . .	238 81
Labor and board, . . . .	447 51
Increase of property, . . . .	250 73
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	\$1,147 44
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	\$569 24
Deducting amount received for board of Stephen Winship and Jonathan Trask, . . . .	64 17
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Cost of supporting the poor at the house, . . . .	\$505 07

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ELI SIMONDS,  
ALBERT FITCH,  
ISAAC N. DAMON, } *Overseers of Poor.*

Lexington, March 10, 1863.

We have this day examined the foregoing bills of expenditure, as enumerated in this Report, and find them correctly stated and properly settled.

WEBSTER SMITH,  
WM. HENRY SMITH, 2d, } *Selectmen  
of Lexington.*

## REPORT OF THE SURVEYORS OF HIGHWAYS.

The Surveyors of Highways, on entering upon their labors, were called upon to pay the following bills; which bills belong to the year that is past, namely:

Paid Isaac Huffmaster, . . . .	\$8 00
" William Hartwell, . . . .	5 00
" William Ham, . . . .	1 14
" Humphrey Chadbourne, . . . .	3 50
" William Simonds, . . . .	1 00
" Bowen A. Tufts, . . . .	4 00
" Thomas H. Rhoades, . . . .	3 50
" George Locke, . . . .	3 75
" Cyrus P. Simonds, . . . .	5 50
" William H. Smith, 2d, . . . .	5 00
" Ebenezer R. Smith, . . . .	1 50
" Emery A. Mulliken, . . . .	1 00
" James S. Munroe, . . . .	1 60
" Isaac Shattuck, . . . .	15 00
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	\$59 49

Cost of repairing highways for 1861, as shown by Selectmen's Report, . . . .

2,178 72

Sum total for repairing roads in 1861, . . . .

\$2,238 21

The Surveyors found, on the 6th March, the following list of property belonging to the Town, and used by the Surveyors in repairing the highways, and appraised it as follows:

2 horse carts, . . . .	\$55 00
1 road plow, . . . .	5 00
2 cart harnesses, . . . .	18 00
Chains and level chains, . . . .	4 50
Blanket and surcingle, . . . .	2 00
8 shovels, . . . .	3 00
Double whiffle-trees, . . . .	4 00
3 hammers and lot of drills, . . . .	5 00
4 picks, . . . .	2 00
Scythe and rake for the roads, . . . .	1 50
3 crow bars, . . . .	1 50
1 brown horse, . . . .	110 00
1 white " . . . .	10 00
Wheelbarrow and stone drag, . . . .	6 00
1 ox cart, . . . .	10 00
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	\$237 50







*List of Appraised Property used for Repairing Road, made February  
28, 1863.*

2 horse carts, . . . . .	\$ 40 00
2 plows, . . . . .	10 00
Lead harness, lead chains, and other chains, . . . . .	7 00
2 cart harnesses, . . . . .	14 00
9 shovels, . . . . .	2 25
Bush scythe, . . . . .	1 00
Picks, pick handles, hammers, rake, and 3 crow bars, . . . . .	7 00
Drills, hammers, and old hinges, . . . . .	7 00
Brown horse, . . . . .	100 00
Brown mare, . . . . .	75 00
2 cart girts, . . . . .	1 50
1 ox cart, . . . . .	5 00
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Value as appraised, March 6, 1862, . . . . .	269 75
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Increased value, . . . . .	\$ 32 25

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ELI SIMONDS,  
ALBERT FITCH, } *Surveyors of Highways.*  
ISAAC N. DAMON,

*Lexington, March 10, 1863.*

We have this day examined the foregoing bills of expenditure, as enumerated in this Report, and find them correctly stated and properly settled.

WEBSTER SMITH, } *Selectmen*  
WM. HENRY SMITH, 2D, } *of Lexington.*